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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF L. Szente et al

APPLICATION NO: 10/511,075

FILED: March 17, 2005

FOR: NOVEL BIOMATERIALS, THEIR PREPARATION AND USE

**MS: Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This Reply is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed October 23, 2007, wherein the pending claims are held subject to restriction. A one-month extension of time petition is included herewith. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

It is stated in the Office Action that the application claims groups of inventions that are not so limited to form a general concept under PCT Rule 13.1. Set forth in the Office Action are five (5) groups of inventions (Groups I through V).

The Office Action alleges that the claims lack unity of invention because the technical feature of Group I "is a precipitate comprising an anionic polymeric component and an amphiphilic ammonium-type component and Group II (presumably referring the claims of Group IV), the technical feature is a medical device" (see page 2, last paragraph of the Restriction Requirement).

The Office Action fails to allege any grounds under which Groups I, II and III lack unity of invention. More particularly Groups I, II and III are each directed to precipitates. Group II provides precipitates of Group I which comprise a further ingredient and Group III provides precipitates of Group I in which the amphiphilic ammonium-type component is exemplified.